## FOUR 'KNAVES."

POLICE OFFICIALS SHOW THETE HAND

Black-Legs Four in Number Give Their Tes timony—Mr. Billy Cook is Shocked at the Idea that a Gambler Could Tell an Un-truth—The Knights Decline to Answer Interesting Questions—Albert Kirby Makes a Living by Backing His O alnion—Ike Jones Solemnly Swears that Ti sere Has Been No Gaming at "The Club," and George Parker

Police beadquarters looked like a club-house yesterday afternoon, the gamblers were so thick.
The occasion was the opening of the investigation, invited by Major Richards, into the relations between the police and the gamblers. The memand so the witnessey and others interested in the investigation had to stare at each other for a long

Albert Kirby was the first of the "crooked" witnesses to appear. He came walking slowly up from Sixth street. When he came in front of police headquarters he heard some one whistling on the corner of Fifth street and Louisiana avenue, and looking over beheld George Parker, whom he immediately joined. Soon afterwards the rest of the witnesses came.

A young gentlemen appeared on the steps of the building with a copy of the NATIONAL REPUBLICAN containing sketches of the witnesses in his hands, and desired to know whether he would be admitted to the meeting of the Board. He wanted to see the witnesses. headquarters he heard some one whistling on

THE INVESTIGATION. The gamblers whose names were published in yesterday's REFUNLICAN were the witnesses present, and four of them were examined. No one expected, since they had been summoned in the interest of the accused, that they would say anything damaging either to themselves, Major Richards, or any members of the police department.

Richards, or any members of the police department.

Col. Wm. A. Cook appeared to defend Major Richards, although he stoutly proclaimed that he was there in the interest of the people. The greatest effort of the day on his part was one to convince the board that gamblers were all homorable gentlemen and perfectly credible. He would not entertain the idea for a moment that a gambler could or would utter a falsehood. Although professedly appearing as the attorney of the board, leading them in the way to get at the truth, he championed the cause of the gamblers, and did everything in his power to shield the police officials and to screen the gamblers from cross-examination. The community will judge of the

when the testimony is read. After the investigation was over a disinterested listener, when leaving the building drew a long breath of fresh air, and said, "There was some tail pleces of perjury up there." Ike Jones said, under oath, there had been connected with that institution. Parker, Taity and Kirby all swore to similar things, which will make their friends smile rather queerly when they read the testimony to-day.

There were many signs of cocking and priming, one of the most noticeable being the readiness with which the witnesses came forward and asked to be questioned. The uniform answer when they were asked to tell their occupation was "I decline to answer that question." One or two of them were more abrupt and uncivil, and said "That's none of your business."

There were one or two assusing things connected with the investigation. When George Parker testified that he had visited a gambling house three years ago there was considerable mirth. Kirby created considerable amusement by solemnly declaring that he was engaged in the business of

"BACKING HIS OPINION" on a horse-race, foot-race, prize-fight, election, and, as a matter of course, sometimes on the turn and, as a matter of course, sometimes on the tarn of a card.

Mr. Cook gravely doubted whether a gambler was prepared to commit perjury, but there are others who, when reading yesterday's testimony, will not be so troubled with doubts. The witnesses were men summoned, as Mr. Cook said, from dean of infamy, and whether they had been out of their hells and circulated in the pure air of heaven long enough to have gained a horror for an untruth will probably be shown before the investigation is concluded. Whatever witnesses are produced to sustain any statements that have are produced to sustain any statements that have been made in the NATIONAL EXPUSITIONS WILL

THE PROCEEDINGS. About three o'clock the members of the Board of Police appeared in the room. A table was provided for the local press, and very soon all was made ready for the investigation. The president of the board road the communication from Major Richards asking for an investigation, of which the following is the text:

METHOPOLITAN POLICE, Dec. 22, 1876. 

To the Board of Police Commissioners:
GENTLEMEN: In view of recent charges or insimuations in a respectable newspaper published in this District that gambling has been permitted here by me because of corrupt use of morey collected from gamblers and paid me to purchase indemnity from arrest, I desire an investigation into the grounds of the accusation above-named. It is my desire that any and all persons having knowledge bearing upon such charges come forward and substantiate the same by testimony before your board, whether such corrupt practices relate to myself or any member of this force.

Yery respectfully,
A.C. RICHARDS,
Major and Superintendent.
Mr. John A. Grow, after the reading of the letter, arose and stated that he had been asked by a number of citizens to represent them before the board, and he desired to know, as their counsel, how the investigation would be conducted. He was there to represent those citizens who would bring before the board, but desired to know what course would be pursued by him in making the investigation.

The president, in roply, read the last clause of

the investigation.

'The president, in reply, read the last clause of the letter of Major Richards, wherein he stated that he desired any one having information bearing upon the charges to come before the board.

MR. GOOK ASKED TO STATE HIS INTENTIONS.

Mr. Grow asked that Mr. Cook state what course he intended to pursue.

Mr. Cook made objections to what he termed an irregular course of proceedings, as no consultation had been had with or proposed to him.

Mr. Grow asked whether citizens who had information would be allowed to appear before the board and to produce witnesses if they wished, and whether those citizens had not a right to be represented.

Mr. Cook said that he would be willing to accept the assistance of the gentleman.

Mr. Cook said that he would first call the managing editor of The Republican, Mr. (Soteldo, Mr. Soteldo, who was present, replied: "I don't think you will just now."
Mr. Cook urged that Mr. Soteldo had been sub-

pernaed.

Mr. Grow arose and said that, although he did not wish to consume the time of the board, he though that it was quite necessary that there should be some consultation as to the character of the testimony that each witness would give. He asked also that all witnesses be excluded except the one below examined.

He asked also that all witnesses be excluded except the one being examined.

Mr. Cook objected to this, saying that he wanted the investigation to be open and that no one should be excluded.

After consultation, the board agreed to the exclusion of all witnesses except the one being examined and members of the police force.

Mr. Grow contended that as editor of a newspaper Mr. Soteldo should not be called upon to give the source of his information. It could not be expected of him to disclose information that had been given to him confidentially. If the board after hearing other testimony should consider that Mr. Soteldo's testimony should consider that Mr. Soteldo's testimony was necessary, he could be called upon at some other time.

Mr. Cook claimed the right to produce and examine the witnesses that he had subpossed, and if Mr. Grow desired afterwards to produce and examine others he had a right to do so.

Mr. Cook again called upon Mr. Soteldo, who said that he refused to appear at that time.

Mr. Cook Then I desire that Mr. Soteldo be excluded.

Mr. Cook. Then I desire that Mr. Sociales of excluded.

The president of the board, Mr. Murtagh, stated that he was the owner and publisher of the NATIONAL EXPUBLICAN; he was also president of the Board of Police; he was there to investigate the charges against Major Richards, and, as he was there in a two-fold relation, he would like Mr. Sociedo to remain as the representative of the NATIONAL REPUBLICAN.

The board having consented to allow Mr. Sociedo to remain, Mr. Gook called the next person on the list of witnesses.

a gambler, and dealer at Teel's place, 210 Sixth

a gambler, and dealer at Teel's place, 210 Sixth street.

Mr. Cook examined Kirby quite at length. He testified to having resided in Washington forty-eight years.

Mr. Cook said that it was sometimes said that he (Kirby) was engaged in what is called gambling. He had no question to ask in regard to that, but on the assumption that such was the case he desired to ask whether, directly or in any form, he had any knowledge of arrangements with Major Richards by which the gamblers were to be protected from arrest.

"None whatever," the witness replied. He continued that he had met Major Richards perhaps fifteen times at different places. Had never heard any do the gambling, and had never heard any of the gambling fraternity say that Major Richards received money for favors shown to them. Did not know that any detectives or any members of the police force had any connection with the gamblers.

CROSS-EXAMINED.

CROSS-REAMINED.

ME. KIERY'S VARIOUS OCCUPATIONS. Was there not a gambling-house in itt" asked

Witness continued that he was engaged at present in nothing particular, except BACKING HIS OPINION.

'Anything else?"
'Yes, a foot-race."

"Anything else!"
"Yes, a prise-fight or anything else. Why, I reen bet on the pushing of a pin."
"On the turn of a card, I suppose?" asked Mr. "On the turn of a case, a regret on the turn of a card as a matter of ceurse."
"Well," continued Mr. Grow, "to put the question right to you, have you been lately keeping a gambling-house in this city?"
"No, sir."
"You have not?"

"You have not?"
"No, str."
"Are you interested in one?"
"That question I decline to answer."
"On what grounds?"
"I con't think that it is a very proper one."
Mr. Cook here objected, stating that Maj. Richards and the police force were upon investigation and not the witness.
Mr. Grow claimed the right of showing to the board who the witness was, what he was, and what his occupation was.
The cross-examination was then resumed.
Kirby declined to answer whether he was engaged in gambling; did not propose to answer any questions whatever in relation to himself; did propose to answer only such questions as suited him. He declined to answer the question on the ground that it might criminate himself.

Mr. Grow said that he wished the board to understand how credible the witnesses were. He
did not think that 'Major Richards wanted to be
acquitted by the testimony of witnesses who were
not credible before the community. How credible was a man who refused to disclose to the
board his profession. He was surprised that Mr.
Cook should attempt to screen the witnesses,
He thought that that gentleman would be as
eager as himself to get at the truth.
Mr. Cook said that he had gone down into the
dens of infamy and brought before the board the
men reputed to be connected with them, He
gravely doubted whether all gamblers were CREDIBILITY.

PREPARED TO PERJURE THEMSELVES. They may be guilty of one vice, but not of The cross-examination of Kirby was then resumed. He continued that he was not at present engaged in any business. Had read the charges in The Kepublican, but was not particularly interested in them. Knew of a house corner of Sixth street and Pennsylvania avenue, called Teel's house, but should not judge that it was a gambling house. There were none in Washington. Declined to answer whether this houre had been carried on as a gambling house ten days ago. Witness would assign no reason for refusing to answer.

THE POWER OF THE BOARD Some discussion followed on the power of the board in dealing with witnesses. It appeared that the board had power to bring witnesses before it, but could not make them answer questions unless they chose to talk.

unless they chose to talk.

GEORGE PARKER,

alias "Hoss." alias "Doctor" Parker, proprietor
of the gambling hell, which has been in operation until the general "close-up," at No. 1545 E
street, was next called by Mr. Cook.

Parker testined that he resided at No. 443 Massacclustors are use; has had close and intimate
associations with the gamblers; knew of no arrangement by which Major Richards or any member of the police force received money; had read
one statement in The Republican, and, so far
as he knew, it was not based upon fact; had
heard outside of the profession that Major Richards received money from gamblers, but never
inside. So far as witness knew Major Richards
had never been engaged in anything of the sort.

Parker was cross-examined by Mr. Grow, and
said that had resided here ever since he was
born; had known Major Richards since 1851; was
not a rarticular friend of his

said that he had resided here ever since he was born; had known Major Richards since 1851; was not a particular friend of his.

"Are you engaged in any business?"

"I have property here which pays my expenses;" was intimately acquainted with gamblers in this city; refused to answer whether he was engaged in gambling on grounds best known to himself; could not specify what statement he had read in This REPURICAN knew a member of the detective corps named Miller; was no personal friend of his; never paid any money to or for him. for him.

Parker was asked if he had visited any of the gambling rooms, and replied that he had visited one alout three years ago.

"Have you visited any since then?" asked the Parker replied, "Yes, sir," smiling.

COULD NOT SAY. "Now," said Mr. Grow, "you have refused to answer whether you kept any house or not, but I-am going on the presumption that you did. Now, does your house pay any attpend to anybody?" "I have not got any house." "Or for any house that you are interested in?" "I can't answer that question."

"I can't answer that question."

I. B. JONES,
one of the proprietors of "The Club," was next
called by Mr. Cook. He testified to having an
intimate acquaintance with gamblers; did not
know of any agreement between Major Richards
and the gamblers for the benefit of either party;
knew et no money brought to bear directly or inindirectly for the purpose of securing protection
for the gambling houses; knew of no detective
who received anything from the gamblers; knew
nothing about the statements in THE REPURLICAN: was not personally acquainted with Major

"THE CLUB." "Have you connection with the Club?" asked Mr. Cook.
"Yes, sir."
"The house on the corner?"
"Yes, sir."
"Yes, sir."
"Who is the real proprietor of the corner

"Is there any gaming apparatus or any gambling carried on in that house?"
"No, sir."
"Did I understand you." asked 'Mr. Grow, "to say that you were connected with 'The Club!" Yes, sir."
How long has that been in existence?"

"How long has that been in existence?"
"You have just remarked that there was no gaming carried on in that house. Has there been any carried on in the house adjoining it, which was reached by going through your house?"
"Well, not since I was interested in it." He declined to answer whether he had any interest in any gambling house, as that had no connection with the case. Sometimes DETECTIVES

and members of the police force came to his house, but never saw any pass through his house into a gambling-house; they may have done so. A drinking-house and restaurant was carried on at "The Club." Mr. Grow asked if the building was used for

Jones was further cross-examined, saying that it was none of counsel's business what business he was engaged in. Had not paid any money, directly or indirectly to any member of the police force. Did not know why the access to a gambling-house through "The Ciub" had been closed, as he had no connection with any gambling-house; he knew nothing about them.

bling house; he knew nothing about them.

JOHN TALTY,
one of the proprietors of "The Exchange," in
Rum Row, was the next witness examined. He
testified that he was born here; had an intimate
acquaintance with gamblers. Knew Major Richarvis, the detectives and some of the polidemen;
knew of no arrangement by which Major Richards was to receive money from gamblers; knew
of no arrangement with any gamblers; had never
heard of any such arrangement from gamblers. I
Mr. Grow cross-examined the witness, and he
testified further that he kept a restaurant, but
declined to answer whether he kept a gambling
house. Had been arrested for keeping a gambling
house five or six years ago; was raided then. If
witness had

PAID THE POLICE ANYTHING recent place. Witness declined to answer whether there was a gaming place in the house; never had paid the police force suything, directly or indi-rectly. Knew Detective Aililer; had seen him in his bar-room. Witness had not been raided within the last year. This finished the examination of Talty, and the

THE POWER OF THE GAMBLERS.

A communication says: I notice with interest your fight againt the "gambling helis" of this city.

Trusting that you know the strength of those "hell hounds" who have in their power prominent officials, and wishing you success in your efforts to "wipe them out," it me give you a little of my experience, that you may not under estimate the "job" you have on hand.

A few years ago, in a flourishing city not a thousand miles from here, a fashionable gambling den caught a clerk in my employ and roubed him of several hundred dollars of my money. Obtaining the necessary "vidence I at once secured the indictment of the proprietor and his assistants by the grand jury. Before the day fixed for trial that gambling ring brought the Governor of the State, the man solemnly sworn to execute the laws on the statute books against gambling, to my place of business, and then and there, in the uresence of the principal criminal, that Governor made a strong personal appeal to me to "let up" on the gamblers I could not -see it in that light. The gambler was tried, convicted, and sentenced. It is needless to add that I have had a standing fight on hand whenever that Governor could reach me ever since. So much for the gamblers outside of the National Capital. Now, for my experiènce with their reveiry. They enticed into their den all classes of men, visitors to the capital, Government clerks, contractors and mechanics. Becoming bold they frequently stated they were safe from arrest. The wives of men who were robbed of their time and money at this den frequently made searches in the vicinity of my residence in this city, and soon made night and the Sabbath hideons with their reveiry. They enticed into their den all classes of men, visitors to the capital, Government clerks, contractors and mechanics. Becoming bold they frequently stated they were safe from arrest. The wives of men who were robbed of their time and money at this den frequently made searches in the vicinity of my residence in the completence of my large and the people of

no longer heard around the fare, hazard or roulette table, thanks to the able war you have made
against these games, but why not continue to
press the advantage and carry the war still
further into Africa' by bringing your pen to
bear upon the 'poker-rooms.' It would not be a
waste of luk, for while you have closed the gameabove mentioned, and drove many of the gamblers who presided over them to seek pastures
new, it has served to bring fresh victims to the
poker-rooms. These rooms are so numerous that
we can well say there is hardly a prominent street
in our city, east, west, north or scuth, that is not
cursed by one or more, and it is wonderfully
strange if the police are not awars of the existence of these denus, for the games in many of
them are conducted in the most public manner,
while others, under the pretence of legitimate
business in front, have what is called a 'quiet
game' in the back-room. These games are
equally as fatal to the pockets and morals of the
young and unwary as any 'skin' game of faro,
harard or roulette could possibly prove to be.
We have been toid of a case where a poor workman, carried away by the damning infatuation of
gambling, nightly losse his hard sarnings in one
of these hells, while his wife and children exist
upon the charity of neighbors. This case alone,
and it is not by any means an isolated one, should
be sufficient to close every 'poker-room' in our
efty. Let us hear from you on this subject."

BATIONAL POUTHERNESS—HE DEPINES HIS TO SITION-AND GIVES HIS REASONS THEREFOR-THE DANGERS OF THE DAY VIVIDLY DE

(From the Atlanta, Ga., Constitution ) [From the Atlanta, Ga., Constitution J.
House of Representatives, J.
Washington, D. C., Dec. 2t, 1876. 
My Dran Sir; I trust you will believe me when
I assure you that your letter is esteemed as worthy
to come from one who has been a "lifelong friend," as you truly style yourself. Every mail is bringing me letters from every section of the Union, and those from the South denote a "panic" among my friends which is most remarkable. among my friends which is most remarkable. I will not pretend that I am insensible to the effect which may be produced on my personal political fortunes, but I do say that my chief solicitude is excited by far different, and, I will add, by far higher considerations.

If the reputation of a public man can be tarnished by agencies so trifling and so false as those now at work, then there can be little encouragement for unselfish patriotism.

I do not pretend that I have served or can serve my country with ability, but I can say that I have given, and am now giving, under the most embarrassing disadvantages, to that country the very best abilities I possess.

SQUIRS FROM WASHIPGTON.
Under the severest trials I have made a record fearless fidelity in defence of Southern civilization and manhood and of unflinching adherence to constitutional government which so man gleny. But what is all this worth iffican have n tion and manneous and unmany to constitutional government which no man can deny. But what is all this worth if tean have no effect in protecting me from irresponsible squibe from Washington city, some of which, at least, are inspired and many encouraged by the most unworthy motives possible? If such squibs, whether thoughtless or designing, can throw into a panie and encourage enemies to refresh their malignity with the stereotyped slang, "I always told you he was not reliable?" then our free institutions and popular Government have arrived at a period where a public man can have no protection save in the nothingness of his imbedity or the callousness of his corruption. He is safe alone when he does nothing that fools can criticise or does only what hirelings will puff for a consideration.

or does only what hirelings will pull for a consideration.

Now, sir, I do not believe the people of Georgia have arrived at this point, and I shall do them the justice to say that I have not the slightest fear that they will allow themselves to be made parties to the wrongs which some are now plotting against me. On the contrary, I do not doubt that when they know the truth, as they will know it, they will approve me with cheerfulness and unanimity, and, in the meantime, they will not withdraw that confidence and trust, without which I shall be powerless to serve either them or myself.

THE POLITICAL SITUATION.

A few words in conclusion. The political situation was never so critical as now. Our constitutional system is on a magazine of powder, and 10, 000 fools and some that are not tools are striking matches all around it.

None but cool men and patriots who, love country more than office, can avert the most horrible civil war that ever disgraced and destroyed liberty and humanity. And yet there was never less excuse for any war in the history of the world.

Such a war, if it come, will be the culmination of human rights by a disgraceful examble for office.

In the late election both Mr. Tilden and Mr. Hayes received some votes. Will it not be better to have either for President than to have a rhier who received no votes? He is too stupid for

to have either for President than to have a raise who received no votes? He is too stupid for argument who does not see that the inst alterna-tive is possible. But whoever may or may not be made President by Returning Boards or bay-onets, one thing is certain—Mr. Tilden cannot and will not be made President unless he is made

people.

That count can be neither fair nor honest unles it be had under the interpretations of the Constitution long accepted and by methods of procedur long established. The party that now demand new interpretations or a new form or method occurt will be

igninst the Constitution, the Union and the peple.

I am, therefore, in favor of a fair and honest constitutional count of the votes of the people.

I am laboring to secure that count and when secured I shall abide its result; and so will every other man, North or South, who is not willing to destroy his country.

I am brave enough to want peace, but not cowardly enough to accept dishonor. I am orare enough to want peace, but not cow-ardly enough to accept dishonor.

It is unpleasant now to have to write letters, and, I confess, a little wounding to my pride to be called on by friends to deny charges so plainly absurd and so wickedly calculated. But I will make an allowance for a natural anxiety in these evil times.

make an allowance for a natural anxiety in these evil times.

I ask you, therefore, to give this letter to the press, and I respectfully ask every paper in Georgia to give it an insertion.

I believe we can avert all the calamities I now so much dread. If we can peacefully inaugurate the man elected by the people we shall have a new and long lesse of constitutional government. If we canno, then our beautiful, glorious and constitutional system will perish, and my friends will find me on the front line of the last fatal charge in its defense.

Yours, very truly.

A. B. CULBERSON, ERQ., Atlanta, Ga.

THE DENOCHATS DENY THE ATTEMPT TO CAPTUR THE STATE-ROUSE.

NEW YORK, Dec. 27.—A World dispatch from New Orleans says: "For some days rumors have been circulated to the effect that it is the inten-tion of the Democratic members-elect to take pos-session of the State-house. It may be taken for granted that these rumors are entirely unious ed, inasmuch as there is not a quorum of Dem cratic members in the city, and only two consults cratic members in the city, and only two consultations, and those of merely a general character,
have as yet been held by them. One thing, however, is absolutely certain, and that is that whatever plan may be determined upon will be free
from any contemplation of violence of any kind.
The lides of taking forcible possession of the
State-bouse in the face of the garrison of United
States soldiers by its side, and of the certainty of
the immediate intervention of the United States
forces to restore it to the Packard Legislature, is
manifestly absurd. It may safely be assumed
that no conflict will be precipitated in this State.

MODEEN PRIMOGRATIC WAYOF MAKING POLATICAL MODERN DEMOCRATIC WAY OF MAKING POLITICAL

FROM NECESSITY.
[Special to the National Republican.]
NEW URLEANS, Dec. 27.—The testimony adduced before the committee to-day adds to rather than detracts from the already-published reports. That there has been a systematic policy of ostra-cism of the white Republicans by the citizens of the South is known to the sufferers; that the colored Republicans have suffered by bull-doxing is well known; but to show the extent of the animus of the Southern white Democrats, I send the following bits of testimony: A horse, worth \$40, assessed \$15 tax; a cow and calf, worth not more than \$25, taxed \$17.50. These taxes were read from the stand by Democratic speakers, as the

from the stand by Democratic speakers, as the effect of Republican rule.
Colored men and women assert that they cannot get employ ment unless they announce thomselves as being Democrats. A colored barber stated to-day that he voted the Democratic ticket, and went to his home and cried. A drayman, whose only fault is being colored, says he is a Democrat from necessity. The Democrats own nearly all the realty of this country, and have both poor whites and colored in slavery. The Senate and House committees are yet in session.

A NOLLE PROSECUL EXYMPTED IN THE CASE OF THE

Senate and House committees are yet in session.

A NOLLE PROSEQUI EXPERED IN THE CASE OF THE
EMBEZILEMENT OF PARISH SCHOOL FUNDS.

VIDALIA, LA., Dec. 27.—The District Attorney
read a message in open court, and entered a
nolle presequi in the case of the State vs. David
Young et al. for embezaling \$21,000 of the parish
school fund.

ALFRED DE MUSSET, the celebrated French
poet, the rejected lover of "George Sand," and
during his life the most brilliant of the sensuous
writers of Paris, is thus described by one of the
women of letters who were mixed up with his unhappy fate. He was born in 1816, and died after a happy fate. He was born in 1810, and died after a career of wonderful genius, dissipation and wildness: "He was of middle height and elight figure, dressed with extreme and almost elaborate care in a green coat with metal buttons, a brown slik waistcoat crossed by a gold chain, and two onyx buttons which fastened the cambric folds of his shirt-front. His narrow black sath browst such that the complexion his white gloves showed by an irreproachable fit the delicacy of his hands; but it was the arrangement of his beautiful fair hair that was specially remarkable. Following the example of Lyrd Byron, he had succeeded is giving air of noble grace to that natural crown of his inspired brow; numerous ourls waved upon his temples, and decemded in clusters toward his network and it was much struck, as the rapid circle of the waits happy fate. He was born in 1810, and died after

CONGRESSIONAL REVIEW SPEAKER RANDALL TO BE WATCHED.

Henry B. Banning, ex-Union Army Officer and Late Republican, Now a Fiery Democratic Leader, Crying for War—How he Conspired With Randall to Get His Political Work In, The Sepate was not in session yesterday. House of Representatives. Speaker Randall was yesterday again guilty of

> time, when there should be peace and good-will to all, falled to deter him from the perpetuation of an act which precipitated a little partisan dis-cussion in the House of Representatives. It was not expected that any very important business read Mr. Hunton, from the committee appointed to frame a government for the District of Columbia, reported the bill prepared by the committee, after which the Speaker prepared to clear his table of the communications that had accumulated during the short recess since Saturday, papers cannot be presented except by unanimous consent, unless the House first receives to go to business on the Speaker's table. But it has grown to be the practice for the Speaker to lay these matters before the House at will, unani-

from the Executive Departments-or other privi-

presented, Randall handed to the Clerk a docu-ment indorsed substantially as the potition of certain citizens of Cincinnati, and embodying the proceedings and resolutions of a meeting held in that city to consider the Presidential compli-cation. Had he asked at once that the paper be referred, there would not have been objection. But when Mr. Banning moved to have the paper frinted in the Record, exception was taken by Mr. Conger, Mr. Garfield and others, on the ground that he had exceeded his privilege when he presented other than executive communica-tions. Now the plain rule is, that petitions musbe presented at the Clerk's desk with the desired reference indersed upon them, and this rule applies alike to the Speaker in the chair and the member on the floor. The fact is that even peti-tions from Beards of Trade and Chambers of Comtions from Beards of Trace and Chambers of Com-merce of the largest cities, and referring to mat-ters of the most vital importance to the mercan-tile and business interests of the country, can be presented in open House only after unanimous consent has been obtained. It has never before been held that because a petition was addressed to the Speaker it was thereby taken out of the rule and could be presented in open House. Randall had the audacity to say, however, that he had a right to present it because it was addressed to him as Speaker, and not as a member from Panershands.

from Pennsylvania. He claimed further that he had obtained unanimous consent. He knew very well that he had communications, and nothing else, and when at one stage of the proceedings he was reminded of this fact by Mr. Garfield he coolly informed the latter that he might have prevented it it he (Garfield) had exercised greater watchfainess. The Republican members ought to take the hint. hould have learned by this time that he unites in his person the very worst traits of the dema-gogue and the pettifogger; that he will resort to any trick, and take every mean advantage to got a partisan report before the House or to gain a party end. He himself invited the Republicans to watch him, and they should do so with the utmost vigilance until he vacates the chair which be disgraces at every opportunity by his unfair and partisan rulings. No one knew better than cency, as it was outside of the plein rule of the House. He secured the printing of the petition. The Republicans did not really object to the printing; but they did object to the assumption of the Speaker that because a petition was addressed to him in his official capacity, he had a right to

to him in his official capacity, he had a right to treat it differently from other petitions, and as a privileged communication.

The paper led to a little political discussion during which the main issue was soon lost sight of, and a plunge was made directly into the Louisiana problem and the Returning Board of that buil-dozed State.

Banning, of Offic, who is strongly suspected of having been declared elected to the next Congress.

having been declared elected to the next Congress by fraud and repeating, was the first to raise his indignant voice at the outrages perpetrated by Republicans in Louisians. Banning has clearly missed his vocation. Instead of aspiring to be a legislator he should have turned from the error of legislator he should have turned from the error of his ways in early youth and become a praying preacher or a class leader. To hear his voice and not distinguish his words, when he makes a speech, one would suppose that he was engaged in prayer. You feel like uttering an "amen" as he reunds every sentence. Well, Baoning was horrified that any one should object to the printing of this petition from his constituents in Cincinnati. He was herrified for two principal reasons. The first was because the House had ordered the printing of the report of Sentar Sherrified for the printing of the report of Sentar Sherrified. dered the printing of the report of "Senator Sher-man and other gentlemen in relation to Louisiana affairs, and the second was because he failed to get arealy, and the second was because an aniel to get a resolution through, calling upon the War Depart-ment for the report made by Gen. Sheridan on Gov, Wells and Louisiana affairs in 1867. Banning also had a grievance in connection with this Sheridan report. He had been to the War De-ment, and they would not let him see the report without an order from the President. At least without an order from the President. At least Banning says so. But perhaps there were substantial reasons for not letting him see the report. The War Department officials were perhaps not unmindful of the fact that since this ex-Confederate House has had authority to call for papers a good many of them have disappeared from the files of the Department. We do not say Mr. Banning would purious a pager. But then, you know, Banning is a Democrat. The Hon. William M. Tweed, now of Ludlow street, New York, is a Democrat. Hon. Fernando Wood is a Demo-Democrat. Hon. Fernando Wood is a Democrat, and did not a precious document disappear from the Congressional Library as soon as Mr. Wood sent for it?

Jeff Davis is a Democrat. The people who stole whole arsenals and may yards in the South in right in himself, but then his associations are bad—very bad—and every schoolboy knows that "evil communications corrupt good morals," or words to that effect. Of course, then, the War Department must guard its precious papers, especially those that are precious to the Democratic heart. And is there a paper more precious to the Democratic heart than General Sheridan's report on Wells, made in 1867? How the ex-Confederates did love Sheridan when Banning was talking of this report. But they did not love him quite so much when Mr. Frye reminded them that this same Sheridan once applied the name of "banditti" to the Democrats of Louisiana, But Banning's speech was directed more to the galleries than to the members on the floor. He was applauded once nembers on the floor. He was applauded once

or twice by the galleries, and that made him talk, or rather pray, the more. There is no telling how long he would have talked if he had not made a faux pax, and turned the laugh of the whole House upon himself. He was telling what the people wanted and what they didn't want, what they would do and what they wouldn't do, when there was more applause in the galleries. The Speaker desiring, no doubt, to pretend to a little fairness, said that the applause must cease or the galleries would be cleared. Banning was so elated with the applause that he did not hear the Speaker's caution, and continuing his remarks, said: "No. Mr. Speaker, the people will not permit that to be done" When the laugh occasioned by this apropes connection had subuided Banning explained that he had no reference to the Speaker's caution, but to what he had been previously speaking of, and then the Hon. H. B. B. subsided for the time being.

Messrs. Garfield and Frye replied to Mr. Banning, and defended Governor Wells and the action of the Louisians Returning Board. The former, alluding to Banning's talk about what the people would do, very properly suggested that those who, at a time like this, attempted to infiame passion should be most consured by the people of the United States.

inflame passion should be most consured by the people of the United States.

Mr. Spencer, who represents the bull-dozed parish of Ousehits, had a word to say in defense of the people of Louisiana. According to Mr. Spencer there was no trouble whatever in Louisiana at the last election. There was not seen made for over Louisiana? Why is all this money being spent for investigations in New Orleans if there is nothing to be investigated? Is Mr. Spencer right, and have the American people only been imagining these things? Well, we shall see when the reports are made. In the meantime Mr. Banning and the Democratic House are welcome to all the comfort they can set out of the printing of the Cincinnati petition in view of the position in which their Speaker has placed himself by his outrageous and partisan rulings.

Having thus again ventilated the Louisians question, the House adjourned for the day.

PUBLIC AFFAIRS.

Capitol Notes.

CRONIE AND HIS PACKAGE.

Mr. Cronis the Electoral College of Gregon, and self-apprinted messenger to bear the electoral vote to Washington, again changed his mind yetter lay and continued in that frame of mind long enough to present his package to vice President Parry, but, like other messengers from disputed States, he failed to obtain a receipt. Falling to obtain the homage due the here he imagined himself, and now failing to obtain his mileage allowance, Mr. Cronia will retire for a time to the shades of Virginia to meditate on the ingratitude of Republics.

Ingratitude of Republics.

OSAR NARERS OUT OF WORK.

A petition from cigar makers in New York city was presented in the House yesterday, in which the petitioners represent that hundreds of their trade are now out of employment; that being without means and having no friends who, as properly owners, would go upon their license bonds they are upable to take out a license as manufacturers, and are thus practically debarred from pursuing their regular mailing. They urge as a remedy for this evit that the system of requiring a manufacturers' license with bonds, ac., be abolished, and a stamp upon each cigar made the substitute for it. They claim an equal or greater amount of revenue can be obtained and an injustice to the poorer class avoided. The petition was referred to the Ways and Means Committee.

HARPER'S PERKY NOT TO BE USED FOR ARMY

On the 8th Theometer Purposes.

On the 8th Theometer a resolution was passed by the House Tree Representatives, on the motion of Mr. Hardenburg, of New Jersey, instructing the Committee of Military Affairs "to inquire into the objects and purposes of the Government in recently becoming the purchaser of the water power and land formerly occupied and used for a national armory at Harper's Ferry, and to inquire since the Government has now again become the owner of the groperty whether it would not be expedient to is establish the national armory at that point or employ its valuable water power for some other Governmental purpose."
This resolution was referred to the Secretary of War, who in turn referred it to General Benet, Chief of Ordunace, for a report.
That officer reports that as to "the objects and purposes of the Government in becoming the purchaser" the law officers of the Government can best reply, and further says: "As to the expediency of re-establishing the national armory at it is the policy of the War Department to conceptrate ordnance manufactures at three agencias and the Springfield Armory, as recommended in recent arsenal reports from this office and the reports of the Secretary of War, and that neither the necessities of the service nor a judicious conomy would render such re-establishment expedient.

PENSION TO THE WIDOW OF A REAR ADMIRAL.

PENSION TO THE WIDOW OF A REAR ADMIRAL.

PERSION TO THE WIDOW OF A REAR ADMIRAL.

In the House yesterday Mr. Wood, of New
York, presented a petition from Henrietta Stringham, widow of Rear Admiral Stlas H. Stringham, U.S. N. asking a pension in recognition of
the services of her late husband. The pension of
a widow of as officer of this rank corresponds
with that of the widow of a major general in the
army, and is usually fixed at \$50 per month dusing her natural life.

Bids were opened in the office of the Commissioner of Patents yesterday for making the photo-lithographic ospics for the Patent Office for the six months part ensuing. There were but three bids received. The committee to which the bids were referred have rendered no award, and are supposed to be disposed to consider the bid of Mr. Peters because he resides in Washington, whereby the bureau would save treight, and whose bid is only one tenth of a mill per page above his competitors.

mpetitors. Treasury Department.

THE TREASURY ROBBERY—NO CLUE OF THE THEFT
THE DESCOVERED.

THE TREASURY ROBBERY—NO CLUE OF THE THEFT
THE DESCOVERED.

The Treasury robbery continues to be a mystery too deep lift the detectives attached to that Department to fathom. In the absence of any clue to the robber, who is admitted to be a skill-ful performer, suspicion attaches pretty equality to all who are directly or remotely connected with the shipment of money between the national banks and the Treasury Department. The officers whose duty it is to unearth the theft confess their inability after three weeks' trial, to come to a planashle theory how the robbery was committed. In such a dilemma perpusp the fletropolitan detective corps might be called in. But it is of no avail to eatch thiews who rob the United States unless they can be punished for their misdeeds, and thus made a warning to evil doers in time to come.

Mr. Jeremiah Wilson, a citizen of West Vir-

TREASURY BALLAGES TRETRIBAY.

The balances in the Treasury Department at he close of business yesterday were: Ourrenoy, 205,587; Special deposits of legal tenders for edemption of certificates of deposit, \$37,435,000; (n, \$46,90),602; including coin certificates, \$11,300,000; outstanding legal tenders, \$36,911,000. A NEW COUNTERPRIT DISCOVERED.

THE CENTENNIAL.

NEW YORK, Dec. 27.—The Congressional investigating committee closed its seesion in New York this evening. A number of witnesses testified in a general way that they believed that fraud existed in the election, but could point to no special cases. A witness named Thos. Duffy told

This concludes the testimony in the post-office investigation.

Mr. Bliss. United States District Attorney, told of his relation with the last election. He said the local authorities acted with the Federal officers for the purpose of preventing fraud, and he considered the election a fair one.

At 10 e'clock, the hour fixed for adjournment, Mr. Wells stated that he had other witnesses in the room whom he desired to call, but the Chair would not allow them to be sworn.

Mr. Wells entered a formal protest against the action of a majority of the committee in not allowing the minority a fair and sufficient opportunity to establish fraud. The protest was filed, and the committee adjourned to meet at the Continental hotel, in Philadelphia, on January 4.

on the state of affairs in Mexico. He said he resigned the Ministry of War in August last because he found it impossible to convince Levid that a re-election would be his doom. It is untrue that he ever intended heading an opposition party against Lerdo, sith-tagh he had ample means and opportunity is do so, having been eleven years at the head of the War Department. He does not believe that Dias will succeed in remaining at the head of the government, because all his acts have been arbitrary. Gen Mejia, having openly advised Dias to act in concert with Iglesias, was banished, not by Dias, who respects him as an old comrade, but by the factions surrounding him. He was allowed to live in any State of the Republic, but he preferred to leave the country, as his presence would ever give rise to undue suspicions.

Gen. Mejia says the accounts of the capture of Lerdo and the shooting of Escabedo, published in the New York puper, are unconfirmed rumors, and that Lerdo probably succeeded in reaching the Pacific coast in safety.

A PROMINENT PRILADELPHIAN TAXES WIS LIN

ENGLAND AGAIN YIELDS.

IMPORTANT PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGE Touching Our Differences on the Extradition Treaty—The American Interpretation Pre-valls—Supposed Escape of Winslow and Gray—They Will be Surrendered, if Found -The English Flag Not to Harbor Fugitive American Criminals.

The following is the message of the President sent to the House of Representatives yesterday:
When Congress adjourned in August last the execution of the extradition article of the treaty of 1842 between the United States and Great Britain bad been interrupted.

HARPER'S PREEK NOT TO BE DEED FOR ARM

Postmaster James testified that he knew of no tampering with the mails. He considers that such a thing is impossible without detection. This concludes the testimony in the post-office in

A DARING BURGLARY IN CIRCINNATI.
CIRCINNATI, Dec. 27.—The Enquirer has the following particulars of a daring safe-burglary perpetrated at Marion, Williamson county, Illinola, Thursday evening. Early in the evening two disguised men entered the residence of Isaac Garatt.

SECRETARY OF WAR INTERVIEWED AND CIVES HIS OFINION ON THE PRESIDENTIAL QUESTION IN MEXICO HAVANA, Dec. 27.—Gen. Mejis, formerly HAVANA, Dec. 27.—Gen. Mejia, formerly President Lerdo's Secretary of War, who was banished from Mexico by Porfiro Diar, arrived here yesterday on the steamer from Vera Cruz. He was called upon by the agent of the Associated Press, to whom he expressed himself very freely on the state of affairs in Mexico. He said he re-

Britain had been interrupted. The United States had demanded of Her Maj-

Britain had been interrupted.

The United States had demanded of Her Majesty's Government the surrender of certain (ugitives from justice, charged with crimes committed within the jurisdiction of the Usited States, who had sought asylum and were found within the territories of Her British Majesty, and had, in due compliance with the requirements of the treaty, furnished the evidence of the criminality of the fugitives, which had been found sufficient to justify their apprehension and commitment for trial, as required by the treaty, and the fugitives were held and committed for extradition. Her Majesty's Government, however, demanded from the United States certain assurances and stipulations as a condition for the surronder of the fugitives. As the treaty contemplated no such conditions to the performance of the obligations which each Government had assumed, the demand for stipulations on the part of this Government was repelled.

Her Majesty's Government thereupon, in June last, released two of the fugitives, (Erra D. Winslow and Charles J. Brent,) and subsequently released a third, (one Wm. E. Gray,) and, refusing to surrender, set them at liberty.

In a message to the two Houses of Congress on the 50th day of June last, in view of the condition of facts as above referred to, I said: "The position thus taken by the British Government, if adhered to, cannot but be regarded as the abrogation and ammulment of the article of the treaty on

THE DIGNITY AND SELF-RESPECT OF THIS GOVRENNENT
to make demands upon that Government for the
surrender of lugitive criminals, nor to entertain
any requisition of that character from that Government under the treaty.

Article cleven of the treaty of 1842 provided
that "the tenth article (that relating to extradition) should continue in force until one or the
other of the particle should signify its wish to
terminate it, and no longer."

In view, however, of the great importance of an
extradition treaty, especially between two States
as intimately connected in commercial and social
relations as are the United States and Great
Britain, and in the hope that Her Majesty's
Government might yet reach a different decision
from that then obtained, I abstained from recommenting any action by Congress terminating the
extradition article of the treaty. I have, however, declined to take any steps under the treaty
toward extradition. THE DIGHTY AND SELF-RESPECT OF THIS GOV

war, declined to take any steps under the treaty toward extradition.

This with great satisfaction that I am able now to amounce to Congress and to the country that by the voluntary act of Her Majesty's Government the eistacles which had been interposed to the execution of the extradition article of the treaty have been removed.

On the 27th of October last Her Majesty's representative at this capital, under instructions from Lord Derby, informed this Government that Her Majesty's Government would be prepared, as

A TEMPORARY MEASURE, until so new extradition treaty can be concluded, to put in force all powers vested in at for the sur-render of accused persons to the Government of the United States, under the treaty of 1842, with-out asking for any engagement as to such persons not being tried in the United States for other than the offenses for which extradition had been de-manded.

anded.

I was happy to greet this announcement as the removal of the obstacles which had arrested the execution of the extradition treaty between the two countries.

In reply to the note of Her Majesty's representative, after referring to the applications heretofore made by the United States for the surrender of the fugitives referred to in the correspondence which was laid before Congress at its last session, it was stated that on an indication of readiness to surrender these persons an agent would be authorized to receive them, and I would be ready to respond to

REQUISITIONS WHICH MAY BE MADE on the part of Her Majesty's Government under the tenth article of the treaty of 1842, which I would then regard as in full force until such time

would then regard as in full force until such time as either Government shall avail itself of the right to terminate it, provided by the eleventh satisfie, or until a more comprohensive arrangement can be reached between the two Governments in regard to the extradition of refundation, an object to which the attention of this Government would gladly be given with an earnest desire for a mutually satisfactory result.

A copy of the correspondence between Her Majesty's representative at this capital and the Secretary of State on the subject is transmitted herewith.

It is with great satisfaction that I have now to announce that Her Majesty's Government, while expressing its desire not to be understood to recede from the interpretation which in its previous correspondence it had put upon the treaty, but having regard to the prospect of a new treaty and the powers possessed by either party of spontaneously denouncing the old one caused the re-arrest on the 4th instant of Brent, one of the fugitives who had been previously discharged, and after awaiting the requisite time within which the fugitive is entitled to appeal or to apply for his discharge, on the first instant surrendered him to the agent appointed on behalf of this Government to receive and convey him to the United Stater.

THE ESCAPE OF WINSLOW AND GRAT.

Her Majesty's Government has expressed an carnest desire to rearrest and deliver up Winslow and Gray, the other fugitives, who had been arrested and committed on the requisition of the United States to give the assurances and stipulations then required by Great Britain. These persons, however, are believed to have escaped from British jurisdiction. A diligent search has falled to discover them.

As the surrender of Great Britain, without condition or stipulation of any kind being asked, removes the obstacle which interrupted the exception of the treaty, I shall no longer abstain from making THE RECAPE OF WINSLOW AND GRAY.

from making

DEMANDS UPON HER MAJESTY'S GOVERNMENT
for the surrender of fugitive criminals, nor from
entertaining requisitions of that character from
that Government under the freaty of 1842, but
will again regard the treaty is operative, hoping
to be able before long to conclude with Her
Majesty's Government a new treaty of a broader
and more comprehensive nature.

U. S. GRANT.

WASHINGTON, D. C., December 23, 1876.

Tilden or Hayes. SEMORIAL OF REPRESENTATIVE CAPITALISTS OF NEW YORK ASKING CONGRESS TO DETERMINE THE UNCERTAINTY OF POLITICAL APPAIRS

THE UNCERTAINTY OF POLITICAL AFFAIRS THE UNCERTAINTY OF POLITICAL AFFAIRS UPON A NON-FARTISAN BASIS.

NEW YORK, Dec. II.—The committee appointed at a meeting of the merchants, bankers, &c., held a week ago here at the residence of Hon. Wm. E. Dodge, have prepared the following memorial to be forwarded to the parties indicated in the address:

To the Honoroble the Sensie and House of Repretentatives in Congress assembled:
Your memorialists, representing a large proportion of the financial and commercial interests of the city of New York, beg leave most respectfully to express their great satisfaction at the action of your honorable bodies in appointing committees of conference to consider the proper mode of counting the ballots for President and Vice President of the United States.

They hall this action as an indication that the two Houses of Congress are desirous of settling this complicated quession in a spirit of moderation and conclination, and they beg leave to represent that in acting thus your honorable bodies have the cordial sympathy of the great mass of the American people irrespective of party. Your memorialists must respectfully, but most earnestly, pray that all mere party considerations may be thrown saide, and that in this crisis in the history of the United States the pure and unselfash patriotism which inspired the founders of the Republic may guide your legislative action; and that you may thus relieve the country from the present uncertainty and apprehensions by a prompt determination of a mode by which the pending momentous issue shall be decided; and your memorialists will ever pray.

Signed by Brown, Gross & Co., Drexel, Morgan & Co., John D., Jones, Phelps, Dodge & Co., Rocerett

from the present uncertainty and apprenensions by a prompt determination of a mode by which the pending momentous issue shall be decided; and your memorialists will ever pray.

Signed by Brown, Gross & Co., Derrel, Morgan & Co., John D. Jones, Pheips, Dodge & Co., Roosevelt & Son, Robert B. Menturn, John A. Stewart, James Low, Oyrus A. Field. Henry G. Marquand, Grorge W. Lane & Co., Maurice K. Jesup, William H. Foeg, M. Morgan's Sons, A. Reilin & Co., Maitland, Phelps & Co., J. and W. Seligman & Co., Lester Whitman & Co., H. C. Bennett & Co., F. D. Tappen, J. M. Morrison, Wm. Dowd, Kelly & Alexander, Amoe F. Eno, I. M. Cooper, B. G. Arneid, J. J. Astor, E. S. Jaffray & Co., Josiah M. Fiske & Co., Havemeyer, Eastwick & Co., August Belmont & Co., Robert Lenoz Kennedy, I. and I. Stuart & Co., Henry F. Spanlding, Mosea Taylor, F. S. Winston, David M. Turnmore, L. V. Von Hoffman & Co., Richard Irvin & Co., Grinnell, Minturn & Co., Richard Irvin & Co., W. H. Hays, Benj. B. Sherman, H. & G. B. Farrington & Co., Wo. M. B. Brinwall, D. R. Margam, James D. Fish, David Dowds & Co., Well, M. F. Palmer, T. S. Lathroy, Wm. B. Brinwall, D. R. Margam, James D. Fish, David Dowds & Co., Wonder, Wilson G. Hunt, Wm. Orton, W. C. Bryant, J. G. Jones, Vermilye & Co., J. D. Vermilye, A. A. Law & Brock, C. H. Marshall, Howland & Aspinwall, J. Macy & Sons, Tabbi & Chauncey, Schultz, Southwick & Co., B. L. & R. Stuart, T. H. Cassett, James W. Alexander, William H. Maey, George D. Morgan, I. H. North, George F. Hope, L. J. N. Stark, John T. Agnew, Charles Bark, N. Sullivan & Co., H. B. Clasfin & Co., Wet. B. Sons, Fabbi & Chauncey, Schultz, Southwick & Co., B. L. & R. Stuart, T. H. Cassett, James W. Alexander, William H. Maey, George D. Morgan, I. H. North, George F. Hope, L. J. N. Stark, John T. Agnew, Charles Bark, N. Sullivan & Co., H. B. Clasfin & Co., Wet. B. S. Higgins & Co., Arnold, Constable & Co., Howard Sanger & Co., M. Appleton & Co., Dike Broa, Moris Franklin, and others.

ACROSS THE OCEAN.

PRACE CONSIDERED PROBABLE - ALTERNAT CONSTANTINOPLE, Dec. 27.—It appears cortain that the Porte will not reject all the proposals of the Powers, but only make objections to several points. Although the Turkish war party is strong a peaceful solution is considered possible. Midhat Pasha and Savfet Pasha seem personally to favor the maintenance of peace. The plenipotentiaries, in order to meet the resistance of the Porte, appear disposed to discuss certain details, provided principles are maintained. It is believed in diplomatic circles that there is ground for hope that no rupture will occur. The interview between the Marquis of Salisbury and the Sultan, on Tuesday, appears to have produced a favorable result. PRACE-WAR BEFORTS AGAIN.

CONTRADICTORY CABLE RUMORS—THE BRITISH ANBASSADOR NOT REMOVED—HIS CONTEX. PLATED ABSENCE FROM THE COUNTRY EX-

PLAIRED ABSENCE FROM THE COUNTRY EXPLAIRED.

LONDON, Dec. 27.—The Pall Mall Gazette of this afternoon in a leading article says the telegrams on the Eastern question are eminently misleading, and warns its readers not to believe the dispatches about the British Ambassader, Sir Henry Elliot's return, the Marquis of Salisbury's ultimatum, and the departure of the English fleet from Turkish waters, &c. It says: "Sir Henry Elliott will leave Constantinople when the conference is ended for a period of rest. Besika bay is no place for large and heavy ships at this season, and the Marquis of Salisbury's business with the Sultan yeaterday was not to present the proposals of the conference as an ultimatum. Likely enough his lordship told the Sultan that the rejection of the conference proposals would put an end to all discussion, and, should war ensue, he must not expect a word or act of support from the British Government, but between the declaration of that kind and the presentation off a threatening ultimatum there is a wide difference. The talk of agreement between Russia and England goes a great deal too far if it is held to signify that England will impose Russia's demands on the Porte. For the sake of peace we may wish to see their proposals accepted. If they are refused.

STILL PREPARING FOR WAR-VOLUNTEERS TO PROCEED TO THE DRING ARKY.

BELGRADE, Dec. 27.—The newspapers here publish the following: "The Russian General Nikitir arrived here on Monday to take command of the Servian army, vice Tchernayeff. At a review of the Russian Division, General Nikitir declare ne had come to Servia by order of the Emperor of Russia to assume command of the army. He said all foreigners serving in Russian corps in Servia would be considered part of the Russian army. Orders have been issued to exps com-manders of the Servian army to proceed immedi-ately to their posts. All volunteers are ordered to proceed to the Drisa army."

MOVIMENT OR THE RUSSIAN FLEET.

LONDON, Dec. 27.—This afternoon's Globe as erts that Russia has ordered her whole fleet tendexyons at Ottohakoff, as apprehensions ar mitertained of active measures by the Turkisi leet. ficet.

A dispatch from Constantinople to Renter's Telegram Company says: "The decree of October 5, 1815, reducing the interest on the Turkish debt one half during five years, has been officially annulled."

THE TROUBLE IN DENMARK.

A special dispatch from Copenhagen to the Pall Mail Gazette says: "The Folkething (the lower chamber of Parliament) has been proroqued to January 9, when the final struggle between the co-ordinate powers of the Government will begin."

M. GAMBETTA MEETS WITH A DRIVEAT-THE GOV-CONTROVERSY BETWEEN THE SENATE AND VERSAILLES, Dec. 27.-M. Gambetta met with defeat to day in the budget committee, which ejected, by a vote of 12 to 11, his motion that the Chamber of Deputies should declare that the Senate had exceeded its powers in restoring grants which were stricken out of the budget by the Deputies. Although the budget committee thus decided that the question of the powers of the Senate ought not to be raised, they nevertheless again adopted various grants as originally passed by the Deputies.

The Stecke (seem-official) states that the Gov.

The Berlin correspondent of the Post asserts hat the Grand Duke Nicholas is dying.

view with the Duke Decares.

The Standard's St. Petersburg special reports that the Grand Duke Nicholas is much better now, and is considered out of danger.

The Times, in a leader, discussing the proposals, says the agreement between Russia and England denotes that even should there be changes of detail the main lines will remain fixed. A Times' Vienna dispatch reports than Gen.
Nikitirn, at the review held on taking command
of the Servian army, said: "In a week's time you
will have an opportunity to prove your courage
before the enemy." before the enemy."

The London Standard's correspondent at Belgrade telegraphs that for several days war between Russia and Turkey has been considered certain there, and Russia is sending money to enable Servis to recommence hogilities.

The London Fost, in its leading article, says: The excitement created by the first alarming telegrams from the East has been much toned down by those which followed, but we have reason to believe that even the latter exaggerate the danger.

to believe that even the latter exaggerate the danger.

A telegram has been received from India announcing the Hill tribe of Afreedes, who have been troublesome lately, are becoming more insolent. The frontier is generally disturbed, and an expedition against the border tribes is considered probable.

The steamer Moctsumas has been heard of She put into Trujillo, in Honduras. The American schooner Mand Barbour arrived at Havana yesterday, and brings three of the Moctsumas crew who escaped from a boat which was sent asbore by her in Trujillo for a pilot and capsized. "The Delty Telegraph's special dispatch from Pera says that the Sultan in answer to Lord Salisbury's friendly representations declared that his personal safety would be complete if he conceded all that the Powers demanded. No threats passed at the interview between the Sultan and Lord Salisbury.

ceded all that the Powers demanded. No threats passed at the interview between the Sultan and Lord Salisbury.

The Standard's dispatch from Vienna says news has arrived from Bessurabia that the Russian army is so little fit for a long campaign that the Grand Duke Nicholas has telegraphed them that unless he receives a considerable reinforcement of packed troops. He cannot commence serious operations beyond crossing the Pruth and taking up quarters in Roumania.

recovered from the ruins of St. Elisabeth convent so badly burnt they could not be identified. Fru are still missing. The coroner's inquest re-sulted in a verdict of accidental death. The cause of the fire has not been ascertained.

Temperance Reform. LARGE ATTENDANCE AT THE STATE TEMPERANC CONVENTION OF MASSACHUSETTS.

BOSTON, Dec. 27.—The State Convention

AMUSEMENTS. BENEDICT'S MINSTRELS.-Lew Bet ment-secrets, and four species is unusually good. The troupe embraces soveral of the best artists in the country, and is one of the best combinations that was ever formed. They will give a performance every night this week, and a matinee Saturday afternoon. "THE TWO ORPHANS" IN BAD LUCK .- In

the top of Music Hall was blown off and the tele-graph wires were struck, which sounded the fire-alarm bell, Miss Fanny Marsh, lessee of the the-aire, was on the stage enacting the part of Hen-riette, in the "Two Urphans." At the sound of the bell some of the audience were panie stricken and attempted to rush out. Miss March stepped quietly to the footlights, saying: "Ladies and gentlemen, pray be seated, there is no danger; should there be I mould be sure to tell you." This, said in her sweet, calm manner, allayed all fears, the audience remaining during the entire performances.

PERSONAL.

Gen. Daniel E. Sickles is the leading camil-date for the position of United States District Attorney for the Southern District of New York. Gen. Sickles' recommendation to the office, be-

James P. Harbeson and wife are sojourning at the Arlington.

Mr. O. S. Gage, of Louisville, has arrived at the Arlington.

Mr. Sheridan Shook, of New York, has parlers at the Arlington.

A. H. Cohen and H. Sellers, of California, have rooms at the Arlington. Mr. Platt K. Dickinson, of New York, is regis-tered at the Arlington. Otto Schaller and wife, of New York, are enjourning at the Arlington.

Henry C. Meyer, of New York, is among the latest arrivals at the Arlington.

Elsewhere. The Royal Historical Society of Great Britain has honored Josiah Newhall, of Massachuseits by making him a fellow. Overnor Hayes and wife participated in the Christmas festivities recently at the Soldiers' and Sailors' Orphans' Home at Xenia, Ohio. Joseph Arch says that if the agricultural laborers of England are denied the ballot, they will not go to war and be shot at for thirteen pence

coast to Los Angeles, a distance of 4,000 miles.

M. Bartholdi, the French sculptor, was married at Newport last Tuesday to Mademoiselie Jeanno Emilie Eabeux de Puysieux, a relative of Lafarge, the artist, at whose house the marriage ceremony was performed.

Mrs. Roxana Nost died lately in Hartford, aged nearly ninety-two. Mrs. Nott was the only anvivor of the missionary band which was sent to India by the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Mission in 1812.

for Foreign Mission in 1812

The two younger sons of the King and Quaen of Sweden were recently confirmed in the royal chapel in Stockholm in the presence of the King and Queen, the Crown Prince and all the highest military and civil authorities.

Sir William Hockaday Dick died in November in London. One of his anestors loaned money to Charles I., which was never repaid. A possion was, however, granted to the family in the reign of Charles II. In 1845 this pension was struck from the list, and the late Baronet died in peresty.

from the list, and the late Baronet died in per-erty.

Sir Humphrey Davy, in a letter to his mother, making reference to the way in which his school-master had neglected him when he was a child, declares he was fortunate in such neglect, and adds: "I, perhaps, owe to this circumstance the little talents I have and their peculiar applica-tion."

Wedding of Dr. O. J. Waters and Miss Sallie M. Sheed at St. Matthew's Church—Smith Bradford Nuptials at the Navy Yard.

Yesterday St. Matthew's church was the scene Yesterday St. Matthew's church was the some of a quiet wedding, performed by Rev. Pather White in the presence of a few intimate friends. The parties were Dr. Q. J. Waiters, a rising young dentist of this city, and Miss Saille M. Sheed, daughter of Capt. Sheed, of the navy, and granddaughter of Commodore Casson, an eld naval officer. Mr. Flotcher acted the part of "best man." The bride, who is a handsome deminiment, with parkling black eyes, wore a very becoming traveling suit in heavy steel colored silk, trimmed with the same, point lace coliar, with hat, &c., to match.

The church contained a number of triends of the couple, notwithstanding the desire for a private wedding owing to recent affliction in the family. After the corementy the bridal party repaired to the residence of H. V. M. Huyek, esq., and partook of a sumptious wedding dinner tendered by him, after which they departed on a Northern tour. Philadelphia being the first stapping place. The happy couple were the recipients of a number of elegant presents, that of the groom being a superb set of diamonds. Upon their return from the North a reception will be held at their residence on Penns ylvania avenue.

Smith-Bendford A charming reunion of many old Dresden friend

Rev. Dr. Lewis, of St. John's church, in a very impressive manner. Among the many friends and acquaintances were Mrs. Gouveneur and her charming daughter, Commodore and Mrs. Febriger, Mrs. Jeffers, Miss Aldis, Miss Hadger, Miss Irving, grand-niece of Washington Irving; Miss Palmer, for many years in Dresslen, where Mrs. Bradford has made her home; Judge and Mrs. Smith, father and mother of the groom, and a host of naval officers.

The beautiful and tasteful decorations were well considered under the hands of Mr. Ludovici, the well-known crayon artist, of New York, and for many years a resident of Dresden, who is now making a short stay with the relatives of the bride. the well-known crayon artist, of New York, and for many years a resident of Dresden, who is now making a short stay with the relatives of the bride.

A congratulatory telegram from Aristache Bey, the Turkish Minister, lent additional happiness to the happy pair. A midst the bright and happy assemblage was missed the good and motherly face of Mrs. Bradford, the mother of the bride, and that of her auniable and beautiful youngest daughter, Miss Louisa, who were daily expected with the fronziens. They after an absence of nine years in Europe, were returning home in the joyous anticipation of greeting the happy couple, but the storms of the past week have prevented their arrival in time. The debut of Miss Bradford, graced and cultivated with a nine years' sojourn abroad, will be an event and a brilliant addition to the charming society of Washington. After the congratulations of all and a goodly repast, the happy couple started on their bridal trip to the North, and the reception continued way into the afternoon.

Elegant Entertainment at the Residence of Austin P. Brown, Last evening the first masquerade party of the season took place at the elegant residence of Mr. Austin P. Brown, on Vermont avenue. At an early hour the spacious pariors were crowded with merry maskers, representing "Brown spirits and gray," and in fact every conceivable costume of

his personal safety would be complete if he conceded all that the Powers demanded. No threats passed at the interview between the Sultan and Lord Salisury.

The Standard's dispatch from Vienna says news has arreced from Hessurabia that the Rudin the Grand Duke Nicholas has telegraphed then that unless he receives a considerable reinforcement of packed troops. He cannot commence serious operations beyond crossing the Fruth and taking up quarters in Roumania.

Florida.

ANOTION TO SET ASIBE HIE NANDANUS—A FOUL.

ACT BY MR. COCKE.

TALLARASHEK ELA, Dec. 37.—The notice from the Secretary of State to the other members of the canvass the returns was withdrawn to-day. Mother and the Court, and will file a motion to vacate the rule and set saide the mandamus. Cocke will obey the mandate of the Court by making a canvash himself and filing the same in the clerk's office this afternoon, as directed by the Gourt. Ex. Attorney General. Williams arrived this in Florida to-morrow.

HAYIS STILL HOLDS THE PORT—THE HOADD DIS.

MEANDAD THE CHEME OF THE COURT TRIDOWING OFF ACENTAL NOUTY.

TALLARASHER, FLA, Dec 27.—Attorney General to canvass. This gives Drew 9rd and Tilden 9! majority. This canvass he filed in the clerk's office has been more of the board refused to canvass. This gives Drew 9rd and Tilden 9! majority. This canvass he filed in the clerk's office has been more of the board terms and the court. Subsequently the other members of the board refused to canvass, and the full board met at 4 o'cloop.

They have just concluded their canvass, and by full review the action of the curry of the court throwing out of the court assembles to-morrow, and will review the action of the refuse of the court is senting the order of the court throwing out of the court assembles to-morrow, and will review the action of the refuse of the board.

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CONVERTING THE ST. LOUIS ABSENAL INTO A RE

St. Louis, Dec. 2:—In accordance with orders from Washington all the ordnance stores at the St. Lauis arsenal, formerly Jefferson barracks, are to be removed—the cannon, over eight handred in number, to Rock Island, and the guns and pistols to the New York arsenal. Their removal will be commenced at once. The arsenal here is to be converted into a cavalry recruiting station.

ASt. Louis dispatch mays: "At Springfield, Mo., on Christima, Charles Leighton stabbed George MacFarlan and shot and killed Bryan Mason. Leighton was arrested."